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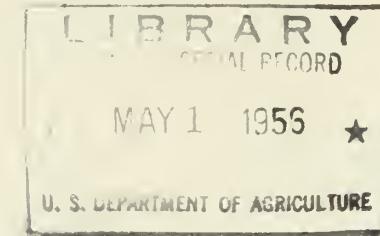
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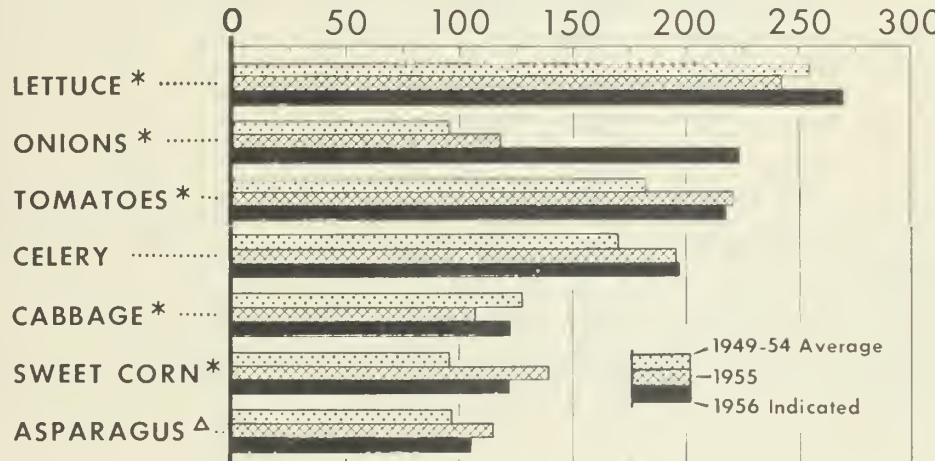
VEGETABLE SITUATION

TVS-120



SPRING PRODUCTION OF FRESH VEGETABLES

THOUS. TONS



BASED ON REPORTS TO APRIL 1, 1956

*EARLY SPRING ONLY

△EARLY SPRING AND MID-SPRING

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 4083-56 (4) AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

Early reports indicate that aggregate production of 18 fresh vegetables, which typically make up more than half of total spring tonnage, is likely to be moderately larger this spring than last and substantially above the 1949-54 average. Of the more important vegetables, shown above, big increases over a year earlier are indicated for early spring lettuce, onions and cabbage. On the other hand, materially smaller

tonnages are in prospect for early spring sweet corn and early and mid-spring asparagus. Significantly smaller crops are also in prospect for early spring broccoli, cauliflower and cucumbers, early and mid-spring snap beans and spring carrots and green peppers. Production of beets and shallots is expected to be larger this spring than last.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

Table 1.- Vegetables for fresh market: Reported commercial acreage and production, average 1949-54, annual 1955, and indicated 1956

Seasonal group and crop	Acreage						Production (equivalent tons) 2/					
	6-year average 1949-54		1955		Indicated 1956		6-year average 1949-54		1955		Indicated 1956	
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Pct.	Percent	Percent	Acres	of	of	Acres	Percent	Percent
	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/
Winter: 3/	275,890	267,620	278,940	101	104		1,489		1,590	1,618	109	102
Spring												
Asparagus, early and mid 3/	81,650	88,570	88,570	108	100		98		114	105	107	92
Asparagus, late 3/	51,500	63,120	64,650	126	102		---		---	---	---	---
Beans, lima	5,570	4,300	3,800	68	88		---		---	---	---	---
Beans, snap, early and mid	42,540	37,100	31,800	75	86		54		51	38	70	75
Beets	1,130	900	1,030	91	114		6		4	5	83	125
Broccoli 3/ 4/	9,530	12,400	12,300	129	99		28		40	28	100	70
Cabbage, early 3/	20,750	19,600	18,500	89	94		128		106	122	95	115
Cabbage, late 3/	10,940	9,200	10,030	92	109		---		---	---	---	---
Cantaloups	35,270	48,700	49,600	141	102		---		---	---	---	---
Carrots	2,920	3,400	2,000	68	59		31		21	15	48	71
Cauliflower 4/	7,240	7,000	5,300	73	76		58		60	32	55	53
Celery	6,450	6,600	7,000	109	106		170		197	198	116	101
Corn, sweet 4/	32,750	31,900	35,200	107	110		95		137	121	127	88
Cucumbers 4/	11,470	8,200	9,700	85	118		42		41	35	83	85
Eggplant	1,250	1,000	1,000	80	100		7		7	6	86	86
Lettuce 4/	47,340	45,950	44,750	95	97		255		242	269	105	111
Onions, early	35,530	37,600	51,000	144	136		95		118	223	235	189
Onions, late	17,360	15,800	12,150	70	77		---		---	---	---	---
Peas, green 4/	8,240	5,100	4,450	54	87		13		9	7	54	78
Peppers, green	7,980	8,500	8,300	104	98		25		30	26	104	87
Shallots	1,970	2,200	2,200	112	100		3		3	4	133	133
Spinach	11,630	9,550	9,230	79	96		37		31	29	78	94
Tomatoes 4/	57,010	61,200	60,500	106	99		182		220	217	119	99
Watermelons	82,780	95,200	100,700	122	106		---		---	---	---	---
Total spring on which acreage and production have been reported	387,380	386,770	392,830	101	102		1,326		1,431	1,482	112	104
Acreage has been reported	590,800	623,090	633,760	107	102		---		---	---	---	---
All spring	694,930	726,420	---	---	---		2,388		2,681	---	---	---
Total winter and spring on which acreage and production have been reported	663,270	654,390	671,770	101	103		2,815		3,021	3,100	110	103
Summer:												
Early												
Cabbage 3/	9,570	8,830	8,860	93	100		---		---	---	---	---
Onions	5,400	4,700	4,290	79	91		---		---	---	---	---
Watermelons	292,150	337,400	315,800	108	94		---		---	---	---	---
Late												
Cabbage 3/	22,630	20,950	21,500	95	103		---		---	---	---	---
Onions	62,700	55,840	56,050	89	100		---		---	---	---	---
Watermelons	18,470	23,000	21,700	117	94		---		---	---	---	---
Early and late on which acreage has been reported 6/	412,810	453,320	430,600	104	95		---		---	---	---	---
Total summer 3/	930,610	971,820	---	---	---		4,208		4,362	---	---	---
Fall:												
Cabbage, early 3/	49,220	40,830	46,130	94	113		---		---	---	---	---
Total fall 3/	303,580	284,430	---	---	---		2,011		1,946	---	---	---
Total on which 1956 acreage has been reported	1,328,720	1,384,860	1,389,430	105	100		---		---	---	---	---
Annual total	2,205,010	2,250,290	---	---	---		10,096		10,578	---	---	---

1/ Group averages including annual total, are simple averages of annual data for the group.

2/ Equipment tons based on approximate net weight of unit used in estimating yield and production.

3/ Includes quantities for processing.

4/ Acreage and production for early spring only.

5/ Includes asparagus, broccoli and cabbage for fresh market and processing.

6/ Includes garlic.

THE VEGETABLE SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, April 20, 1956

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SUMMARY

Early estimates for 18 important vegetable crops point to a slightly larger aggregate supply of vegetables for fresh market sale this spring than last. Among the more important crops, substantially larger tonnages than in 1955 are in prospect for early spring onions, lettuce and cabbage. On the other hand, reports point to materially smaller tonnages for a number of vegetables, including early spring asparagus, broccoli, cauliflower, sweetcorn and cucumbers, early and mid-spring snap beans, and spring carrots and green peppers.

Prospects point to continued strong consumer demand for food. But with larger total supplies expected, prices received by growers of spring-season vegetables are likely to average a little lower than those of a year earlier.

Indicated acreage of cantaloups for spring harvest is 2 percent larger than last year. Acreage of late spring watermelons is up 6 percent, but indicated acreage in both the early summer and late summer producing States is moderately smaller.

Supplies of processed vegetables available for distribution this spring are smaller than a year ago and are moving at generally higher wholesale and retail prices. Smaller stocks and the prospect of continued strong consumer demand has caused processors to plan a larger pack in 1956. In early April, acreage intentions were available for 8 vegetables which usually make up about 95 percent of the tonnage of the 11 vegetables for commercial processing covered in the regular reports. Of these crops, processors

indicated intentions to plant or contract a 4 percent larger acreage of snap beans than a year earlier, 6 percent more green peas, 3 percent more winter and early spring spinach, 16 percent more sweet corn, 28 percent more cabbage for kraut (contract acreage only), 10 percent more tomatoes, 11 percent more beets for canning and 4 percent less cucumbers for pickles.

Indications are that after mid-spring fewer potatoes may be available this year than last. Acreage of potatoes for late spring harvest is down 8 percent from 1955, and growers reported intentions to plant 4 percent fewer acres to potatoes in the intermediate States and about 3 percent less in the late States. Near average yields on the indicated acreage would produce a smaller output of intermediate and late crop potatoes than in 1955, but would still result in a substantial surplus. Experience in recent years suggests that growers would get higher returns from the crop if they would make a further moderate cut in acreage.

Intentions reports indicate that growers are likely to plant 11 percent less acreage to sweetpotatoes this year than last. If yields should be near the 1950-54 average, production on the indicated acreage would be substantially smaller than either a year earlier or the average.

March intentions to plant point to an 8 percent smaller acreage of dry edible beans for 1956 harvest. If the indicated acreage is planted and yields are near the average of recent years, supplies in the 1956-57 marketing season would be moderately smaller than the large supplies available this season. The national average support price for 1956 crop dry edible beans has been set at \$6.31 per hundred pounds, 5 cents per hundredweight lower than the rate for 1955 crop beans.

Reports from growers on March 1 indicated intentions to plant 16 percent more acres to dry peas this year than last. Since the small crop in 1955 was due to very low yields, the indicated acreage with a near normal growing season would result in a crop more than one-third larger than the 1949-53 average, and in excess of anticipated market requirements.

COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES FOR FRESH MARKET

Aggregate Spring Supplies Likely To Be Larger Than A Year Ago

Aggregate tonnage for the 18 spring vegetable crops, on which production estimates are now available, is expected to be about 4 percent larger than last spring and almost 12 percent above the 1949-54 average. Total acreage is slightly larger and higher yields are expected for a number of crops. These 18 crops made up about 53 percent of total spring vegetables produced for fresh market sale in 1955.

There is considerable variation in prospective production of individual vegetables compared with a year ago and average. Indicated tonnage increases over last spring are largest for early spring onions, lettuce and cabbage. Among other important crops, significant increases in tonnage over a year ago are indicated for spring beets and shallots and a slight increase for celery. Substantial decreases in tonnage from a year earlier are in prospect for early spring asparagus, broccoli, cauliflower, sweet corn and cucumbers, early and mid-spring snap beans, and spring carrots and green peppers. Slight to moderate decreases in production from last spring are in prospect for green peas, tomatoes, eggplant and spinach.

Although production estimates are not available for lima beans, cantaloups and watermelons, acreage of lima beans, is about 12 percent smaller than a year earlier, while acreage of cantaloups is slightly larger and acreage of watermelon moderately larger.

Consumer Income To Continue High;
Prices Likely To Average A Little Lower
Than A Year Earlier

Disposable income of consumers in the first quarter of 1956 was a record high. Although per capita production of winter-season vegetables was no larger than a year earlier, aggregate prices received by farmers in January and February averaged about (5) percent lower than in the same months of 1955. The lower average prices was due primarily to the significantly lower prices for the increased crops of celery and lettuce, and the much lower February price for cabbage. With the exception of tomatoes, most of the winter vegetables seriously damaged by the January freeze were light volume crops and the impact on the price average was relatively minor. By March prices of cabbage and a number of other items had improved, and the mid-March index of prices was above that of 1955. However, the price of tomatoes in March averaged much higher than those of a year earlier.

Consumer ability to buy is expected to continue at a high level at least through the spring and summer. However, with prospects for a larger production of spring vegetables than a year ago, prices received by growers during the next two to three months are expected to average a little lower than those of a year earlier.

Acreage in Prospect For
Several Summer Crops

Early reports indicate a slightly larger acreage of cabbage for summer harvest than a year earlier, and a moderately smaller acreage of watermelons. Indicated acreage of early summer onions is down substantially from last year, while prospective late summer acreage is up slightly.

Intentions Reports Indicate
Larger Acreage of Fall Cabbage

Based on growers' intentions in early April, a 13 percent larger acreage of cabbage may be available for harvest this fall than last, but 6 percent less than in the 1949-54 period. This indicated acreage includes that part of the fall crop used in the manufacture of sauerkraut, most of which is the domestic type. Acreage of Danish and domestic types is not reported separately, except in Up-State New York.

Prospects For Leading
Spring and Summer Crops

Cabbage

In the post-World War II years demand for early spring cabbage appears to have declined. Acreage of cabbage for early spring harvest was almost one-third lower in 1951-55 than in 1946-50, and despite a substantial increase in rate of yield production was down about one-fifth. In the short-run the demand for cabbage, even the spring crop, tends to be inelastic. The relatively light crops of 1952 and 1955 brought prices so high as to be reminiscent of the war and immediate post-war years. But in recent years when production has been near average, the weaker demand for cabbage has generally been reflected in lower prices than in the immediate post-war period.

Throughout most of the winter-spring season cabbage has moved from country shipping points in somewhat heavier volume and at materially lower prices than a year earlier. Early reports indicate that supplies of cabbage throughout the spring are likely to continue substantially larger than the relatively light supplies available last spring. Acreage of cabbage for early spring harvest was down 6 percent from a year earlier, but yields are expected to be materially higher. Last year the early spring crop developed slowly and yields were cut by dry weather and the late March freeze in the Southeastern States. Although the growing weather this year has not been ideal, indications are that yield will be much better than last spring and production may approximate 122,000 tons, about 15 percent more than in the early spring of 1955, but about 4 percent less than the 1949-54 average. The early spring crop typically makes up about two-thirds of the total spring production.

Prospects are that supplies from the less important late spring crop will also be larger than a year ago. Acreage planted for harvest is about 9 percent larger than a year earlier and indications are that yields may be higher. Most of the increase in acreage for the late spring states occurred in Tennessee and North Carolina where in 1955 the late March freeze resulted in considerable abandonment. If anticipated supplies materialize, prices received by farmers for cabbage during the next two months are expected to average lower than the relatively high levels of a year earlier.

Grower intention reports indicate that acreage planted to cabbage for 1956 early summer harvest will be about the same as the acreage harvested last year, while acreage of late summer cabbage is likely to be up slightly. If yields should be near those of recent years, total summer production on the indicated acreage would be about the same as in 1955.

Early April intentions reports indicate a prospective planting of early fall cabbage, including cabbage for kraut, of 46,130 acres, 13 percent more than last fall but 6 percent below the 1949-54 average. Most of the indicated increases over a year earlier is due to larger prospective acreages in New York, Oregon and Wisconsin. Early fall acreage of domestic and Danish type cabbage are reported separately only for Up-State New York. Prior to 1952, about 40 to 50 percent of the early fall Danish production was in New York State. Reports indicate that growers in New York expect to plant a 15 percent larger acreage of early fall Danish cabbage than in 1955, but a slightly smaller acreage than the 1949-54 average. The relatively high prices received for fresh market cabbage last fall, and the light supplies and presently strong market for sauerkraut, make it seem likely that on a national basis the acreage of both Danish and domestic types will be above that of last fall.

Celery

In the past 10 years acreage planted to celery for spring harvest has fluctuated between 5,800 and 7,600 acres, but has shown no definite trend. During this same period, however, adoption of more intensive cultural practices, increased use of higher-yielding Pascal strains and some shifting to more productive areas has resulted in a sharp rise in average yields. The net result was that celery production in the last five years averaged more than one-fourth larger than in 1946-50. This rapid increase in output has exerted some pressure on prices. In recent years, prices received by growers have averaged significantly lower than in the years immediately following World War II.

April 1 reports indicate plantings of celery for spring harvest in Florida and California at 7,000 acres, 6 percent more than a year earlier. Acreage is up in both Florida and California. Prospects are for yields moderately lower than last year's record level, and a production about the same as last spring but 16 percent above the 1949-54 average.

Market supplies of celery in the January-March period consistently ran moderately to materially heavier than those of a year earlier, and prices received by growers were severely depressed, averaging almost one-third lower than in 1955 and the 1949-54 average. In recent weeks shipments have been lighter and prices at shipping points have been near those of a year ago.

Data are not yet available as to the probable acreage of celery for summer and fall harvest. In recent years California has produced 40 to 50 percent of the volume for early summer harvest, while Colorado has produced

about half of the late summer crop. In 1955 the early summer harvest of celery was materially smaller than in 1954, and prices were 16 percent higher and only 5 percent below the 1949-53 average. The 1956 acreage guide recommends an acreage of celery for early summer harvest equal to that of 1955 with a production objective only slightly higher than last year and moderately above the 1949-53 average. Celery in the late summer States continued its post-World War II downtrend, with both acreage and production in 1955 being down substantially from that of 1954. The lighter supplies resulted in a strong market with prices for the 1955 crop averaging one-third higher than in 1954 and about one-fourth above the 1949-53 average. The Department guide suggests a 1956 acreage 5 percent larger than a year earlier. Should yields average near those of recent years production would be slightly larger than in 1955, but less than three-fourths of the 1949-53 average.

The acreage and marketing guide for fall vegetables suggests that acreage of celery for early fall harvest be increased 5 percent over that of last fall with an objective of a moderately larger output. For late fall the guide recommends 5 percent fewer acres than in 1955 with the objective of a slightly smaller production.

Lettuce

Lettuce is one of the more important spring crops both from the stand-point of volume of production and value. In recent years lettuce has been second only to watermelons in tonnage produced for spring harvest, and in most years the value of the crop has exceeded that of any other spring crop except tomatoes. During the post-World War II period, average yields of lettuce for spring harvest increased substantially and, despite a moderate decline in acreage production has increased at a slightly faster rate than population. The increased average yield has been largely a result of materially higher yields in Arizona and moderately higher yields in California, by far the most important spring State. In the period 1949-54 California produced almost two-thirds of the early spring crop, while the two States of Arizona and California produced more than 90 percent of the early spring volume.

April 1 reports indicate that acreage of lettuce for early spring harvest, which represents more than three-fourths of total spring production, is down slightly from that of a year earlier and about 5 percent less than the 1949-54 average. The distribution of the acreage is quite different, however, with acreage in the high yielding Salt River Valley of Arizona being up about 50 percent from that of 1955, while California acreage is down about one-fourth. Increases in acreage in Arizona this year occurred largely in plantings for late April and early May harvest when it became obvious that acreage in California would be cut by heavy winter rains.

Largely because of the increased planting in Arizona, average yields in 1956 promise to be substantially higher than those of a year ago. Indications are that production of lettuce for early spring harvest will be about one-tenth

larger than last year. During most of the winter, supplies of lettuce were heavier than in the winter of 1955 and prices were well below those of a year earlier and the 1949-54 average. In recent weeks market supplies have been nearer those of a year earlier and prices at country shipping points have averaged moderately lower.

Complete data are not available as to the probable acreage of lettuce for late spring and summer harvest. However, data on the acreage planted for June harvest in the Salinas-Watsonville area of California indicate that June supplies from that district will be much heavier than a year ago.

Acreage of lettuce for summer harvest in 1955 was down almost a tenth from that of a year earlier and was slightly below the 1949-53 average. However, because of very high yields in California, which accounts for about three-fourths of the summer crop, production was a record high and 16 percent above average. After mid-June, however, marketings were unusually orderly with little bunching or overlap with shipments from other areas. Prices in all States were much above the low levels of 1954 and well above the 1949-53 average. The Department guide suggests a 5 percent larger acreage for 1956 summer harvest with a production objective about equal to the 1955 output.

Onions

Texas produces virtually all of the early spring onion crop, while California generally accounts for more than half of the late spring output. Texas and Arizona are also important late spring States.

The early spring acreage in Texas has varied materially from year to year but in more recent years, has tended on the average to decline somewhat from the 1946-50 level. However, acreage in 1956 is up sharply from that of a year earlier and is the largest since 1946. Prospects are that yields will also be relatively high in 1956, with production almost twice as large as a year earlier and more than twice the 1949-54 average. The big increases in plantings occurred in the Coastal Bend District and in irrigated areas of the Raymondville and Lower Valley districts.

New crop onions have been moving in volume since mid-March and prices have been much lower than a year earlier. Harvest did not proceed as rapidly as maturity would have permitted because of market conditions, and according to reports in early April only the best onions were being hauled from the fields. Although harvest is nearing completion in the Lower Valley and Coastal Bend districts, continued ample supplies are in prospect from the Laredo, Winter Garden and Eagle Pass areas.

Acreage of onions for late spring harvest generally averages less than half that for early spring harvest. However, because of the much higher yields for the later crop onions, production from the late spring harvest is typically as important as that from the early spring crop.

During the last 10 years, acreage of onions for late spring harvest has trended downward, but this decline has been largely offset by increasing yields. Indicated acreage for late spring harvest is 23 percent smaller this year than last. If yields should average near those of recent years, production on the indicated acreage would be about one-fifth less than in 1955 and only three-fourths of the 1949-53 average. But with the large early spring crop, this smaller prospective production for late spring should prove ample.

Production of early summer onions is relatively small, amounting on the average to less than 2 million 50-pound sacks. Last year, because of a relatively heavy crop and some overlap in shipments with both the late spring and late summer harvest, prices of the early summer crop were well below those of the previous year and the 1949-53 average. This year, acreage of the early summer crop is expected to be 9 percent less than in 1955 and about 20 percent below the 1949-53 average. The cut in acreage is about in line with acreage guide recommendations. Near average yields on the indicated acreage would result in a substantially smaller output than last year or average. If production is no larger than anticipated and if there are no major distortions in harvesting patterns, prices should average materially above the low levels of a year earlier.

For late summer onions, the crop which accounts, on the average, for about 75 percent of the total annual production, indications are that acreage will be slightly larger than last summer. But yields were relatively low last summer; average yields in 1956 would result in a production 7 percent larger than a year earlier, 6 percent larger than suggested in the acreage guide, but slightly below the 1949-53 average.

Tomatoes

Among the commercial vegetables produced for fresh market spring harvest, tomatoes on the average rank third in tonnage and first in value. Although acreage planted to this crop has trended downward during the past 10 years, substantially higher yields have resulted in a moderate increase in production.

Reports indicate that the early spring crop of tomatoes, produced in Florida, Texas and California, is likely to be slightly smaller than the record output of 1955, but almost one-fifth larger than the 1949-54 average. Plantings are down only 700 acres with increases in Florida and California largely offsetting the moderate reduction in Texas. Yields are expected to be lower in Florida than the very high yields of 1955, but higher yields are in prospect for both Texas and California.

Production of winter-season tomatoes was only about three-fifths as large this year as last, because of severe January freeze damage to the South Florida crop. January-March imports of tomatoes from Mexico and Cuba were at about the same low level as a year earlier. Production plus imports added up to a winter market supply about one-third smaller than last year. The restricted supplies resulted in January-March mid-month prices about 27 percent higher than those of a year earlier and 11 percent above the 1949-54 average.

In recent weeks movements of tomatoes from producing areas have picked up rapidly and prices have declined. Shipments during the first half of April were somewhat larger than those of a year earlier and shipping point prices were far below those of mid-March and significantly below those of a year earlier.

No data are yet available as to the intended acreage of tomatoes for harvest in the late spring States or in the summer areas. Although acreage planted to late spring tomatoes is normally about three-quarters as large as that planted for early spring harvest, yields are much lower, and tonnage from the late spring States is generally less than half that from the early spring crop. Acreage planted to the 1955 late spring crop was almost one-fifth smaller than 1954 with the only increase occurring in South Carolina. Despite higher average yields, production in 1955 was 7 percent less than in 1954 and slightly below the 1949-53 average. Prices received by farmers for the late spring crop were above the low level of 1954, but about one-third lower than the 5-year average. The Department acreage guide for 1956 suggests an acreage and production of tomatoes for late spring harvest the same as last year.

The guide suggests an overall acreage of tomatoes for early summer harvest 10 percent smaller than in 1955, but slightly larger than the 1949-53 average. The recommendation is for 20 percent less acreage for harvest in California than a year ago and 5 percent less acreage in all other States. However, should yields in the various States be near average, 1956 tonnage on the suggested acreage would be about 6 percent above that of a year earlier and average. For late summer harvest, the guide suggests an acreage for harvest 5 percent larger than in 1955, but 5 percent smaller than the 1949-53 average. The suggested acreage with near average yields would result in 14 percent more tonnage than the short 1955 crop but 6 percent less than the 1949-53 average.

Cantaloups

During the years since World War II, the production of spring cantaloups has increased more than 50 percent. Production in California, the leading State in the immediate postwar years, has declined while production in Texas and Arizona has increased sharply, with Arizona taking over first place.

Indications are that acreage of cantaloups for spring harvest is 2 percent larger this year than last and 41 percent above the 1949-54 average. If yields should be near the 1953-55 average, production would be a little larger than last year and about one-third larger than the 1949-54 average. In the last few years, demand for early spring cantaloups has been strong and despite increasing production, prices have averaged higher.

The crop for early summer harvest last year was smaller than the previous year and well below the 1949-53 average. Prices were above those of the previous year and average. However, both the mid-summer and late summer crops were above the previous year and the 1949-53 average. These heavier supplies resulted in relatively low prices for both crops. Even though the sharply lower production in the early summer States enhanced marketing opportunities for mid-summer melons, prices were well below average and there was some economic abandonment in North Carolina. Heavy shipments from the delayed large mid-summer crop in California offered more than the usual amount of competition with supplies from the late summer States, and resulted in relatively low prices for the late crop.

The Department guide suggests a 5 percent reduction in acreage of cantaloups in both mid-summer and late summer producing States. Such an acreage with near average yields would result in a moderately smaller production of mid-summer melons than a year earlier, and about the same volume of late crop melons.

Watermelons

Like spring cantaloups, the production of late spring watermelons in Florida and California has increased sharply during the past 10 years. Most of the increase has been due to acreage expansion and higher average yields in Florida, though production also has increased in California. In the 1949-54 period, Florida had, on the average, 90 percent of the acreage and produced about 80 percent of the late spring volume.

Indications are that this year, acreage of watermelons for late spring harvest is 6 percent larger than a year ago and about one-fifth larger than the 1949-54 average. In South Florida, drought, wind and low temperatures delayed the crop, and in the Central part of the State, drought retarded development. Also, there was extensive replanting in the Northern and Western sections of the State after losses from the late March cold.

Based on March 1 intentions reports, growers probably planted about 315,800 acres of watermelons to the important early summer crop. This would be an overall decrease of 6 percent from 1955, with decreases for all States except Arizona, California, Missouri and Oklahoma. Reduced plantings in Georgia, South Carolina and Texas account for about 88 percent

of the total decrease in acreage. If yields by States should be near the average of recent years, production on the indicated acreage would be materially less than in 1955. Assuming a fairly normal marketing pattern for most of the crop, prices on the indicated production would be expected to average substantially higher than the low level of a year earlier.

Growers are expected to plant about 21,700 acres of watermelons for 1956 late summer harvest. This is 6 percent less than in 1955 but 17 percent more than the 1949-54 average. Such an acreage with near average yields would result in a production moderately smaller than a year earlier, but moderately larger than suggested in the acreage guide and materially above the 1949-54 average.

VEGETABLES FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING

Good Rate of Movement Prospect Remainder of 1955-56 Season

Most processed items appear to be about in balance with anticipated requirements with a few items likely to be in tight supply at the end of the marketing season. The generally satisfactory stocks position plus the prospect of higher material and labor costs in the coming season, indicate for the remainder of this marketing season a continued good rate of movement of most processed items at steady to firm wholesale and retail prices.

Smaller Carry-over Stocks of Canned Vegetables In Prospect

The total carryover of canned vegetables at the beginning of the 1956 pack year is expected to be moderately smaller than in 1955. The larger carryover of minor vegetables in prospect probably will be more than offset by materially smaller aggregate stocks of major items--snap beans, sweet corn, green peas, tomatoes and tomato juice. Of the major vegetables, latest data available indicate that total stocks of corn and tomato juice are much smaller than a year earlier while holdings of snap beans are moderately smaller; indicated stocks of canned tomatoes are moderately larger than a year earlier, and peas slightly larger.

Among other vegetables on which data are available, indicated stocks of asparagus, tomato products, spinach and pumpkin and squash are larger than a year earlier while stocks of lima beans, beets, carrots and sauerkraut are smaller.

Frozen Vegetable Stocks
Smaller Than A Year Earlier

During the first three months of this year withdrawal of frozen vegetables from storage was at a higher than average rate when compared with total holdings. Stocks of frozen vegetables in commercial cold storage on April 1 amounted to 448 million pounds, 9 million pounds less than in 1955 and 65 million pounds less than in 1954. Holdings were much smaller than a year earlier for Brussels sprouts, sweet corn and "other vegetables," substantially smaller for lima beans, and moderately smaller for asparagus, snap beans and green peas. Stocks of broccoli, cauliflower, and spinach were materially larger than on April 1, 1955.

Pack in 1956 Likely
To Be Larger Than in 1955
Prices To Growers Higher

With the smaller supplies of most processed items moving at stronger prices than a year earlier indications are that packers will seek a larger pack this year than last. The aggregate pack of frozen items is likely to be up substantially. The Department in its acreage-marketing guide issued in January suggested for 1956 a total acreage of vegetables for processing 2 percent larger than the 1955 acreage. The objective of the acreage suggested in the guide, and based on the average yields by states of the various commodities, is for an aggregate production of commercial vegetables for processing 3 percent larger than in 1955, and about 6 percent above the 1944-54 average.

Although no summary of contract prices is available, reports from various areas indicate that commercial processors are offering somewhat higher contract prices this year than last for a number of important vegetables. Among major items for which prices are expected to be higher are tomatoes and sweet corn. On some other items where packers are reluctant to pay more than last year, growers are resisting offerings and prices are likely to average as high or higher than a year earlier.

It is too early in the season to obtain any firm estimates as to the production and final pack of vegetables in 1956. However, information available, including the April 1 acreage intentions reports, indicate that processors plan a substantially larger pack this year than last for most of the important vegetables. The 8 vegetables for processing for which intended acreage reports are now available show an aggregate increase of more than 8 percent in prospective acreage over 1955. The 8 vegetables, snap beans, cabbage for kraut (contract acreage only), sweet corn, green peas, winter and early spring spinach, tomatoes, beets for canning and cucumbers for pickles make up about 95 percent of the 11 vegetables for processing covered in the regular reports. It must be remembered that these figures represent only tentative indications of intentions. A number of factors, including intentions reports may cause processors to modify their plans for the 1956 pack.

Early Prospects For
Major Items In 1956Snap Beans

A moderately large pack of green beans in 1955 and very large carry-over stocks resulted in total supplies in the 1955-56 marketing season as large as the heavy supplies a year earlier. However, due to a sustained high level of demand and considerable promotion including price concessions in some areas, movement has been good and indications are that stocks of the canned item is moderately smaller than a year earlier and stocks of frozen beans slightly smaller.

According to reports received by the Crop Reporting Board in late March and early April, packers intend to contract or plant a 4 percent larger acreage of snap beans for processing this year than last. The indicated acreage for freezing is substantially the same as in 1955, while prospective acreage for canning is up 6 percent. The 1956 planting intentions continue to reflect the upward trend in production of this crop and the growing importance of the highly commercialized areas. The intended acreage is considerably larger than that recommended by the Department, and could result in another near record pack and relatively low prices.

Cabbage For Kraut

The 1955 pack of cabbage for kraut was small relative to the previous year and average and supplies in the 1955-56 season have been light. In recent months processors have boosted prices as stocks have become tight.

The dwindling supplies and favorable market prospects have resulted in optimism on the part of sauerkraut manufacturers. Early April reports indicate prospects for a 28 percent larger contract acreage of cabbage for kraut this year than last. If yields and abandonment should be near the average of recent years, production on the indicated contract acreage would be about one-fourth larger than a year earlier and about in line with the 1949-54 average. In most years open market purchases by kraut processors are relatively large and can be used as a kind of balancing factor to supplement production from contract acreage.

Sweet Corn

Because of the short 1955 pack, supplies of processed corn during the current marketing season have been substantially smaller than in the previous season or the average of recent years. On April 1 supplies of frozen sweet corn were more than one-third smaller than on the same date last year. Stocks of canned corn are also much smaller than at this time last year. Prices paid canners for most types of corn have trended upward during the past few months. This, together with a relatively tight stocks position, has apparently stimulated processors to seek a considerably larger acreage for processing in 1956.

Late March and early April intentions reports indicate that processors are likely to contract and plant 16 percent more acres of sweet corn in 1956 than in 1955 with significant increases reported in all sections of the country. Prospective acreage for canning is up 15 percent and acreage for freezing up 19 percent over that of a year earlier. Acreage for freezing typically represents less than 15 percent of the total.

The intended increase in acreage is well above the modest increase suggested in the acreage-marketing guide. If processors should stick close to their planting intentions, yields and abandonment near the average of recent years would result in a production much larger than in 1955 and at least moderately above the 1949-54 average.

Green Peas

The much heavier pack of green peas in 1955 was largely offset by smaller carryover stocks so that supplies during the current marketing season have been only slightly larger than those of a year earlier. Shipments through the first nine months of the current season were at a little higher rate than a year earlier. Indications are that remaining stocks are only slightly larger than the low level of a year earlier.

Reports in early March from canners and freezers indicate that 1956 acreage of green peas for commercial processing is likely to be about 6 percent larger than a year earlier, and 9 percent above the 1945-54 average, with increased acreage intended in each major area. Acreage for canning, which represents a little more than two-thirds of the total, is up about 5 percent from a year earlier but slightly less than the 1945-54 average. But the acreage indicated for the fast growing freezing industry is 10 percent larger than last year and about 50 percent more than the 1945-54 average.

If yields and abandonment should average near those of recent years, production on the indicated acreage would be moderately larger than in 1955 and about in line with anticipated requirements.

Spinach

The 1955 pack of spinach was much above the relatively small pack of the previous year. Indications are that the canned pack in 1955 was about one-third larger than that of the previous year and the frozen pack about two-thirds larger. A good part of the increased production went toward replenishing the very low stocks of both the canned and frozen item. Movement of spinach since March 1955 has been considerably faster than in the previous year, and stocks of both canned and frozen product, while materially larger than a year earlier, are still below average.

Early March reports from Texas and California indicate a 1956 production of 74,100 tons for canning and freezing from the winter and early spring crops. The total is about one-fifth larger than in 1955 and almost half again as large as the 1945-54 average. In recent years, these States have supplied about half of the total annual crop for processing. The increased output of spinach in recent years has been due almost entirely to the rapid growth in the frozen component, which in the 1954-55 season accounted for almost 40 percent of the total pack.

Tomatoes

Latest data available indicate that holding of whole canned tomatoes and most tomato products are slightly to moderately larger than a year earlier, but holdings of tomato juice are much smaller.

Early April reports of planting and contracting intentions indicate that acreage of tomatoes for processing in 1956 is likely to be about 10 percent larger than last year. Should yields by States be near the average of recent years, production on the indicated acreage would be materially larger than that of 1955, and significantly above that suggested in the Department's guide.

Cucumbers For Pickles And Beets For Canning

Intentions reports indicate a prospective acreage of cucumbers for pickles 4 percent less than a year earlier and 10 percent below the 1945-54 average. Should this acreage materialize, yields near the 1952-55 average would result in a production substantially below both the 1955 output and that suggested in the acreage-marketing guide.

Prospective acreage of beets for canning is reportedly up 11 percent from that of a year earlier and about one-fifth above the 1945-54 average. Yields near those of recent years would result in a much larger production than in 1955, when yields were relatively low, and substantially more than the 1949-54 average.

POTATOES

Short-run Supply Prospects

Indications are that production of potatoes for spring harvest will be smaller this year than last. Acreage of potatoes for early spring harvest was up about 4 percent from that of a year earlier, but cold and drought in Florida has delayed the crop and reduced yields. The crop in Florida and Texas is now estimated at 5.7 million bushels, 8 percent less than in 1955.

During the past 4 weeks shipments of new crop potatoes have been running below those of a year earlier and prices have averaged higher. Acreage of potatoes for late spring harvest is estimated to be 8 percent smaller than in 1955. If weather conditions should be about normal and yields near the average of recent years, production on the indicated acreage would be materially smaller than that of a year earlier.

Small Acreage Cut Indicated in
Intermediate and Late States

Based on past relationships between intentions reports and acreage actually planted, the Crop Reporting Board in early March estimated that potato growers are likely to plant 4 percent fewer acres to potatoes in the intermediate States and about 3 percent fewer acres in the late States. In the intermediate States, only Delaware indicated an increase in acreage. The three major States indicated a reduction of 7 percent.

In the late crop groups, the 9 Eastern and 9 Central States indicated intentions to cut acreage about 5 percent. In the Eastern group, Maine, the dominant producer, and West Virginia, a minor factor in the total picture, indicated no change in acreage from a year earlier. Acreage reductions in other important producing States ranged from 5 percent in Long Island, New York to 10 percent in Up-State New York and 11 percent in Pennsylvania. In the Central area all of the more important producing States indicated significant reductions in acreage except North Dakota which intended only a slight cut from 1955. Illinois, Iowa, and South Dakota which together produce less than 5 percent of the group total, each indicated no change in acreage from a year earlier. In the Western States planned acreage is about 1 percent larger than a year earlier with Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado and Washington showing increases. Nebraska and Montana indicated substantially smaller acreages than in 1955 and Oregon a slightly smaller acreage. No change was shown for California, New Mexico, Utah and Nevada.

Indicated Cut in Acreage
May Not Be Enough

Although farmers' planting intentions point in the right direction, their indicated reductions may not be enough to curtail production sufficiently to allow supplies to move through normal marketing channels at prices satisfactory to growers. The overall intended acreage is 6 percent larger than recommended by the Department guide. If planting intentions materialize, 1950-54 average yields by States would result in about 308 million bushels of intermediate and late crop potatoes, 11 million bushels less than in 1955, but about 17 million bushels more than suggested in the guide.

The quantity of summer and late crop potatoes taken by consumers varies much less than changes in price. This means that when farmers produce an oversupply they get a smaller total return than if supplies are kept in line with market requirements. Thus, from the standpoint of gross and net income from potatoes, farmers probably would do well to cut acreage more than intentions reports indicate.

It should be emphasized that the foregoing discussion is based on farmers' reported intentions as of March 1. Later considerations, including the intentions report, may cause growers to modify their 1956 plans.

Large Quantity of 1955 Crop
Potatoes Marketed Outside
Normal Trade Channels

Diversion Program

Because of depressed prices resulting from the large output of 1955 late crop potatoes, the Department early last fall put into operation a diversion program to assist the industry in disposing of supplies in excess of normal trade requirements. Through April 14 of this year, total diversion of potatoes to starch and flour amounted to 13.4 million bushels, mostly in Maine and Idaho. Under the program, more than 70 percent of the 1955 crop potatoes diverted to starch and flour met the minimum standards on which government payments could be made.

In addition to the large quantity of 1955 crop potatoes diverted to starch and flour, another 2.2 million bushels have been diverted to livestock feed. Largest marketings for this purpose occurred in Idaho, Oregon and Pennsylvania. About 60 percent of the potatoes marketed for feed qualified for the supplementary government payments.

Purchases by Spain
and Sweden

Another development that took some potatoes and bolstered trade spirits was the authorization issued to Spain, on March 12, for the purchase of up to 1.4 million dollars worth of U. S. potatoes. That country subsequently bought more than 800,000 bushels of Maine potatoes. Then in late March a sale to Sweden was negotiated involving over 100,000 bushels of Maine potatoes. These purchases were a result of the severe February cold wave in Europe which damaged or destroyed part of the available and potential supplies.

SWEETPOTATOES

Supply And Movement
of the 1955 Crop

Production of sweetpotatoes in 1955 was about 28 percent larger than that of 1954. Unloads of 1955 crop potatoes shipped by rail, boat and truck to 19 major metropolitan markets from July through January were about the same as a year earlier. Since the first of the year, offerings have been heavy and the usual spring price rise has not occurred. Slow movement and a dull price situation prompted the Department in mid-February to reactivate the sweetpotato purchase program in Louisiana (where it had expired on December 31) and a few weeks later to extend the purchase authorization to New Jersey, North Carolina, Virginia and Texas. Through April 14, more than 400,000 bushels of sweetpotatoes had been purchased under the program, most of them after the program was reactivated.

Prices for Remaining 1955 Crop
Sweetpotatoes Likely to Continue Low

Most of the 1955 crop has sold at prices about one-fourth lower than a year earlier and almost one-third below the recent 5-year average. On March 15, U. S. average price received by farmers for sweetpotatoes was \$2.09 per bushel compared with \$3.12 a year earlier. Shipping point prices in Louisiana in late March and early April suggest that this relationship has not changed significantly.

Substantially Smaller
Acreage Intended for 1956

March 1 reports indicate growers intend to plant 322,800 acres of sweetpotatoes for 1956 harvest. This would continue the long-time downtrend in acreage. The indicated acreage is 11 percent less than in 1955 and almost one-third smaller than the 1945-54 average. During this period there has been no definite trend in average yields so that total production also declined sharply. If March 1 planting intentions are carried out, 1950-54 average yields would result in a 1956 harvest of about 30 million bushels. This would be 22 percent under 1955, almost one-third smaller than the 1945-54 average, and moderately less than suggested in the Department acreage-marketing guide.

The cut in acreage is general in all areas and is probably due primarily to the low prices for the large 1955 crop. Alabama and California are the only major producing States which did not indicate intentions to cut acreage in 1956. Alabama indicated only a moderate increase while California indicated no change. Growers in Louisiana, the leading producers of sweetpotatoes, intended to plant 17 percent less acreage than a year earlier.

Among other important States the following acreage cuts were indicated: North Carolina, 9 percent; South Carolina, 12 percent; Georgia, 5 percent; New Jersey, 18 percent; Virginia, 5 percent; Mississippi, 5 percent; and Tennessee, 15 percent.

Price Prospects for
the 1956-57 Season

Demand for sweetpotatoes during the remainder of 1956 is expected to be about the same as a year earlier. Should production be no larger than presently anticipated prices for 1956 crop sweetpotatoes are likely to average much higher than the low levels at which most of the 1955 crop has moved.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

Material Reduction in
Acreage Intended in 1956

March 1 intentions reports indicated that growers planned to plant 1,535,000 acres of dry beans for harvest in 1956. This is almost 8 percent less than in 1955 and 4 percent less than the 1949-54 average. While decreased plantings were indicated for all areas, the sharpest cut is in prospect for the Southwest, the main Pinto area. Reports indicate that plantings in this area may be down as much as 14 percent from a year earlier and one-third lower than the 1945-54 average.

In the Northwestern States, leading area in the production of Small Red and Great Northern types, intentions indicated only a 4 percent reduction in acreage from a year earlier. In this group, a substantial decrease in Idaho, was largely offset by a moderate increase in Montana and a 14 percent increase in newly irrigated areas in Washington. In the Northeast, indicated acreage in New York, the leading producer of Red Kidney Beans, is down 12 percent from that of 1955. In Michigan, the dominant Pea Bean State, indicated plantings are down 3 percent. In California, the all Lima acreage is indicated about the same as last year, but prospective acreage of "other" dry beans--mainly Blackeye, Pink and Small White--show a decline of 15 percent.

The main factor which influenced farmers' intentions to cut acreage probably was the declining prices during the past two or three years. At the time most farmers reported their intentions the support program for 1956 crop beans had not been announced.

If plantings conform closely to intentions reports and yields by States approximate the 1950-54 average, production in 1956 would be about 17.9 million 100-pound bags (uncleaned basis) or 5 percent less than in 1955, and slightly below the 1949-54 average.

National Average Support for
1956 Crop Beans Fractionally
Lower Than For 1955 Crop

The Department of Agriculture has set the national average support price for 1956 crop dry edible beans at \$6.31 per 100 pounds. This is 5 cents per hundredweight lower than the price for 1955 crop beans.

The supported classes of 1956 crop beans will be the same as those in the 1955 program. The following support rates will apply to the various classes of dry beans produced in 1956: (U. S. No. 1 beans): pintos, \$5.63 to \$6.13 per hundredweight, depending on area; Great Northerns, \$6.28 to \$6.78; pea and medium white, \$6.63 to \$7.13; small white and flat small white, \$6.71; red kidney, \$8.14; pink, \$6.76; small red, \$6.86; large lima, \$9.71; and baby lima, \$4.96 per hundred pounds. The support rate for red kidney beans has been moved up 18 cents per hundredweight in relation to other classes to more nearly reflect historical price relationships. All other price relationships remain the same as under the 1955-crop program. Premiums and discounts for 1956 crop beans also remain the same as those for the 1955 crop. Premiums for U. S. Choice Hand Picked and U. S. Extra No. 1 beans will be 10 cents per 100-pounds, except for pea beans on which the premium will be 25 cents. Discounts for U. S. No. 2 beans will be 25 cents per hundredweight.

Quantity of Beans Under
The Support Program

Support rates have been reduced the past few years in an attempt to encourage domestic and export movement and to discourage further overplanting and surplus production. Nevertheless, production each year has exceeded normal market requirements. Through March 15, 3.5 million hundredweight of 1955 crop beans had been placed under price support, compared with 4.0 million 100-pound bags through the same date a year ago. Of 1954 production, about 3 million 100-pound bags or 17 percent of the total crop, were delivered to the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Supplies to Remain
Plentiful in 1956

Although there was a good rate of movement of dry beans from CCC stocks during May 1955-March 1956, about 1.0 million hundredweight of 1954 crop and 0.6 million hundredweight of 1955 crop beans remained in inventory as of early April. Foreign demand was relatively light in the September-January period with exports running less than three-fourths as large as a year earlier and less than two-thirds of the 1949-53 average. However, exports substantially larger than a year earlier are anticipated in the February-August period. While it appears likely that domestic movement of 1955 crop beans has been moderately larger than a year earlier, carryover

into the new crop year may approximate last year's carryover. Thus, if the anticipated 1956 production materializes, overall supplies of dry beans should be adequate during the 1956-57 marketing season, and prices are likely to remain at moderate levels.

DRY FIELD PEAS

Continued High Prices Indicated for 1955 Crop Peas

Prices of dry peas were at record levels in February and March. Because of the low average yields in 1955, production was small and during the season supplies have become increasingly tight. Export demand has been relatively light, with the September-January foreign take only about one-fourth as large as a year earlier, when Europe had a virtual crop failure, and only 75 percent of the 1949-53 average. However, the smaller supplies have not been adequate to meet a relatively stable domestic demand. Consequently, imports have been about double the rate of a year earlier and more than 70 percent above the 1949-53 average, though very small compared with U. S. production. With supplies already tight, prices of dry peas are expected to remain at high levels until new crop supplies become available.

Prospects For Substantially Larger Acreage Than in 1955, Much Larger Production

Reports from growers on March 1 indicated intentions to plant 16 percent more acreage to dry peas than in 1955, and slightly more than the 1945-54 average. While intended acreage is up in all States except Minnesota and Wyoming where no change is reported, it is the expected increase in the 2 leading States, Washington and Idaho which is important. Washington, the leading producing State shows an increase of 7,000 acres, or 4 percent, over 1955, and Idaho of 35,000 acres or 35 percent.

The indicated acreage with anything like a normal growing season would result in the largest crop since 1947. While no production estimate is made until July, 1950-54 average yields, by States, on the intended acreage would result in an output of 4.5 million 100-pound bags (uncleaned basis), about 60 percent larger than the short 1955 crop and over one-third larger than the 1949-53 average.

Price Prospects for 1956 Crop Dry Peas

It appears that the relatively favorable level of prices which farmers have received for the past 3 or 4 crops of dry peas is in large measure responsible for their optimism as reflected in reports of planting intentions.

The relatively favorable prices, however, have been largely due to moderate supplies, not to any sharp increase in demand. Past experience indicates that the demand for dry peas generally does not vary much from one year to the next. In recent years it has taken about one and three-quarters to 2 million bags of dry peas (uncleaned basis) to meet all domestic requirements at reasonable price levels. After domestic demand has been satisfied, the remaining production has been exported. However, with the exception of the 1954-55 crop year, when European supplies were short because of a poor 1954 crop, exports have not amounted to as much as a million bags since 1946-47.

Thus, aggregate utilization in recent years has generally amounted to 3.0 to 3.5 million bags. This is considerably less than the anticipated 1956 production. A part of the production over normal requirements will be needed to replenish depleted stocks. But planting as large an acreage as intended would be expected to result in production in excess of foreseeable requirements. Such a level of supplies would be expected to weigh on the market in the 1956-57 marketing season and to result in prices well below the high levels of the 3 previous seasons.

PACK OF FROZEN VEGETABLES BY MAJOR
CONTAINER SIZE, 1944-55

Tables 2 through 5 in the appendix of this issue, present data on the commercial production of frozen vegetables by major container sizes 1944 through 1955. The tables are similar to those originally published in the April 1955 issue of The Vegetable Situation. In the present tables, data have been added for 1954 and preliminary data for 1955.

Table 2.- Frozen vegetables: Commercial production, total and by major container sizes, United States, 1944-55

TWS-120

a. Total frozen vegetables

Year	Retail-size containers 1/				Small sizes 3/				Institutional and bulk containers 2/				Large sizes 4/				Total production
	10 ounces	12 ounces	Other ounces	Total	2½ pounds	4 and 5 pounds	Other	Total	30 pounds	50 pounds	Other	Total	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	
	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	
1944	19,138	57,988	26,551	103,677	45,736	31,113	11,698	88,547	13,271	12,799	18,798	44,868	133,415	133,415	237,092		
1945	22,616	82,343	32,230	137,189	60,459	37,858	21,932	120,249	15,777	15,285	19,777	50,539	170,788	170,788	307,977		
1946	59,972	148,192	45,822	253,993	57,269	39,775	27,693	124,137	16,735	26,065	28,470	71,270	196,007	196,007	450,000		
1947	38,673	136,642	25,668	200,383	46,268	24,470	21,366	92,110	12,230	17,952	23,533	53,715	145,825	145,825	316,208		
1948	79,679	156,771	48,075	284,525	52,778	12,758	18,327	63,863	23,479	33,083	21,408	77,970	161,833	161,833	446,358		
1949	129,032	153,810	80,736	363,608	60,580	20,017	28,877	109,474	24,343	34,065	32,009	90,417	199,891	199,891	563,499		
1950	146,776	176,031	66,808	389,615	68,831	23,097	28,803	120,731	15,299	32,407	29,049	76,755	197,466	197,466	587,101		
1951	241,815	170,323	115,299	527,437	86,379	27,499	34,118	147,996	17,819	39,923	36,863	94,605	242,601	242,601	770,938		
1952	360,140	91,669	143,296	595,035	111,058	21,323	45,237	177,118	11,262	57,156	54,548	122,566	300,684	300,684	892,719		
1953	523,213	40,658	156,272	720,343	135,137	9,097	63,788	208,922	17,475	75,402	175,105	383,127	1,103,270	1,103,270	1,103,270		
1954	462,965	42,413	115,978	619,956	115,974	24,442	58,640	184,056	7,297	68,641	94,678	170,616	351,672	351,672	974,628		
1955	510,378	930,013	135,116	738,507	118,719	5,156	94,792	218,657	6,904	69,162	106,455	182,521	401,188	401,188	1,139,695		
1944	10,813	---	154	10,967	4,568	3,344	2,138	10,050	1,399	---	1,337	2,736	12,766	12,766	23,573		
1945	11,192	---	146	11,338	6,978	7,394	1,192	15,664	511	83	3,664	4,258	20,122	20,122	31,460		
1946	22,591	---	234	22,825	5,599	1,878	5,307	1,162	159	3,045	4,366	18,150	40,975	40,975	40,975		
1947	15,245	---	1,460	16,705	4,327	1,146	4,104	9,577	1,425	2,744	4,629	14,206	30,911	30,911	30,911		
1948	30,108	---	30,108	8,986	1,186	3,059	13,331	1,397	2,710	2,137	6,244	19,475	49,583	49,583	58,523		
1949	37,311	---	42	37,353	7,663	1,568	4,342	13,573	1,041	2,590	3,966	7,597	21,170	21,170	65,113		
1950	43,209	---	207	43,416	9,959	5,232	5,232	20,146	911	2,623	1,643	4,394	22,113	22,113	65,529		
1951	56,285	---	43	56,328	13,007	1,838	5,301	19,958	4,220	5,063	5,063	5,177	25,323	25,323	81,651		
1952	54,872	---	4,924	59,166	13,709	1,929	1,929	4,220	4,04	2,847	8,314	28,272	87,438	87,438	114,781		
1953	66,370	---	7,535	73,905	695	8,598	8,598	789	27,335	3,700	13,341	40,876	114,781	114,781	123,253		
1954	70,057	---	7,298	77,355	23,398	513	7,029	30,938	819	9,424	4,717	14,960	45,898	45,898	120,968		
1955	58,213	---	18,634	76,847	17,338	226	7,288	24,832	854	12,811	5,604	19,269	44,118	44,118	120,968		
1944	---	9,369	---	9,369	6,625	2,566	175	9,366	371	4,014	5,830	10,215	19,581	19,581	29,550		
1945	---	10,374	169	10,543	6,162	1,770	2,335	10,967	951	3,342	2,673	6,966	17,933	17,933	28,476		
1946	---	22,253	1,340	23,593	5,951	2,116	4,670	12,737	409	10,295	3,049	13,753	26,490	26,490	50,083		
1947	---	38,993	---	38,993	6,333	1,058	5,973	15,364	3,045	5,533	5,259	13,837	29,201	29,201	68,194		
1948	46,682	498	45,564	46,682	11,268	2,153	320	13,741	4,416	7,638	3,546	15,600	29,341	29,341	75,403		
1949	2,338	44,585	---	46,923	11,222	2,292	1,453	14,967	6,616	13,830	5,613	26,059	41,026	41,026	87,946		
1950	14,590	39,491	---	54,081	14,261	4,819	48	19,128	548	7,010	5,221	12,779	31,907	31,907	89,988		
1951	42,333	29,208	71,541	14,567	2,512	230	17,309	4,233	6,080	8,857	19,170	36,479	36,479	108,020			
1952	52,780	52,646	74,426	19,620	2,505	532	22,557	1,001	6,278	9,564	16,843	39,500	39,500	113,926			
1953	82,299	52,159	83,458	26,830	848	4,442	32,220	2,604	10,880	9,433	22,917	55,137	55,137	138,595			
1954	79,160	80,102	23,367	23,367	2,354	4,918	28,285	356	9,702	11,287	21,287	49,572	49,572	129,674			
1955	75,787	52,955	---	76,742	16,936	2,354	932	19,322	453	9,811	11,369	21,633	40,955	40,955	117,697		
1944	4,073	2,453	---	6,526	8,327	3,794	---	12,121	1,528	492	316	2,336	14,457	14,457	20,983		
1945	2,277	8,318	---	10,635	7,283	3,964	401	11,648	684	1,280	1,284	3,448	14,896	14,896	23,551		
1946	9,328	12,176	---	8,637	6,717	5,327	410	12,454	2,071	3,169	3,229	8,469	20,923	20,923	42,427		
1947	---	7,906	7,906	2,189	980	16	3,185	2,258	5,440	5,251	3,293	7,102	17,922	17,922	27,559		
1948	13,396	13,396	4,039	5,583	2,494	---	8,077	3,751	5,571	6,281	9,889	13,014	13,014	20,920			
1949	2,600	16,742	4,039	5,271	4,824	---	7,933	909	6,354	11,503	15,603	23,680	23,680	37,076			
1950	11,142	2,615	16,805	11,601	2,760	---	10,123	2,389	9,045	6,167	11,523	19,256	19,256	32,998			
1951	21,210	2,789	24,446	20,554	2,778	1,395	23,227	2,634	19,084	15,263	21,724	44,549	44,549	62,684			
1952	33,613	10,988	44,601	32,040	8,843	188	9,241	1,225	11,715	6,091	46,172	78,212	78,212	104,809			
1953	31,364	676	32,040	32,040	7,477	158	222	7,370	7,857	6	22,174	29,550	29,550	37,407			
1954	32,498	---	136	32,634	7,477	158	222	7,370	7,857	6	22,174	29,550	29,550	37,407			

Continued -

Table 2.- Frozen vegetables: Commercial production, total and by major container sizes, United States, 1944-55 - Continued

Net weight content of one pound of less.

2/ Net weight content over one pound.

3/ Net weight content of more than one pound and

Net weight content of more than ten pounds and

4/ Net weight content of more than ten pounds.

5/ Includes small volume in "other" retail sizes.

Less than 500 pounds.
1/12 ounces.
Frozen Food Pack Statistics, Vol. II, annual reports of the National Association of Frozen Food Packers.

Table 3 .- Frozen vegetables: Index of production, total and by major container sizes, United States, 1944-55

(1944=100)

Year	Total production	Retail-size containers 1/	Institutional-bulk containers 2/		
			Total	Small sizes 3/	Large sizes 4/
			Percent	Percent	Percent
1944	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1945	129.9	132.3	128.0	135.8	112.6
1946	189.8	245.0	146.9	140.9	158.8
1947	146.0	193.3	109.3	104.0	119.7
1948	188.3	274.4	121.3	94.7	173.8
1949	237.7	350.7	149.8	123.6	201.5
1950	247.6	375.8	148.0	136.3	171.1
1951	324.8	508.7	181.8	167.1	210.9
1952	377.8	573.9	225.4	200.7	274.1
1953	465.3	694.6	287.1	234.9	390.3
1954	411.1	598.0	265.8	207.9	380.3
1955	480.7	712.3	300.7	247.0	406.8

1/ Net weight content of 1 pound or less. 2/ Net weight content over 1 pound.

3/ Net weight content of more than 1 pound and up to 10 pounds. 4/ Net weight content of more than 10 pounds.

Table 4 .- Frozen vegetables: Percent of total production by major container sizes, United States, 1944-55

(Total annual production=100)

Year	Total production	Retail-size containers 1/	Institutional-bulk containers 2/		
			Total	Small sizes 3/	Large sizes 4/
			Percent	Percent	Percent
1944	100.0	43.7	56.3	37.4	18.9
1945	100.0	44.5	55.5	39.1	16.4
1946	100.0	56.5	43.5	27.7	15.8
1947	100.0	57.9	42.1	26.6	15.5
1948	100.0	63.7	36.3	18.8	17.5
1949	100.0	64.5	35.5	19.5	16.0
1950	100.0	66.4	33.6	20.5	13.1
1951	100.0	68.5	31.5	19.2	12.3
1952	100.0	66.4	33.6	19.9	13.7
1953	100.0	65.3	34.7	18.9	15.8
1954	100.0	63.6	36.4	18.9	17.5
1955	100.0	64.8	35.2	19.2	16.0

1/ Net weight content of 1 pound or less. 2/ Net weight content over 1 pound.

3/ Net weight content of more than 1 pound and up to 10 pounds. 4/ Net weight content of more than 10 pounds.

Table 5 .- Frozen vegetables: Production, by major container sizes, United States, 1944-55

(Percentage of annual total of each major container group)

Year	Retail-size containers 1/			Institutional and bulk containers 2/			Small sizes 3/			Large sizes 4/		
	10 ounce	12 ounce	Other:	Total	2½ pounds	4 and 5 pounds	Other:	Total	30 pounds	50 pounds	Other:	Total
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
1944	18.5	55.9	25.6	100.0	51.7	35.1	13.2	100.0	29.6	28.5	41.9	100.0
1945	16.5	60.0	23.5	100.0	50.3	31.5	18.2	100.0	30.6	30.3	39.1	100.0
1946	23.6	58.4	18.0	100.0	45.9	31.9	22.2	100.0	23.5	36.6	39.9	100.0
1947	19.3	68.2	12.5	100.0	50.2	26.6	23.2	100.0	22.8	33.4	43.8	100.0
1948	28.0	55.1	16.9	100.0	62.9	15.2	21.9	100.0	30.1	42.4	27.5	100.0
1949	35.5	42.3	22.2	100.0	55.3	18.3	26.4	100.0	26.9	37.7	35.4	100.0
1950	37.7	45.2	17.1	100.0	57.0	19.1	23.9	100.0	19.9	42.2	37.9	100.0
1951	45.8	32.3	21.9	100.0	58.4	18.5	23.1	100.0	18.8	42.2	39.0	100.0
1952	60.5	15.4	24.1	100.0	62.5	12.0	25.5	100.0	9.1	46.5	44.4	100.0
1953	72.7	5.6	21.7	100.0	64.9	4.4	30.7	100.0	10.0	47.0	43.0	100.0
1954	74.7	6.8	18.5	100.0	63.0	5.1	31.9	100.0	4.3	40.2	55.5	100.0
1955	69.1	12.6	18.3	100.0	54.3	2.3	43.4	100.0	3.8	37.9	58.3	100.0

1/ Net weight content of 1 pound or less.

2/ Net weight content over 1 pound.

3/ Net weight content of more than 1 pound and up to 10 pounds.

4/ Net weight content of more than 10 pounds.

(Expressed in carlot equivalents)

Commodity	1955			1956			January	February
	February	December	Total	February	December	Total		
Rail, boat, and air	Rail, boat, and air	Rail, boat, and air	Total	Rail, boat, and air	Rail, boat, and air	Total	Rail, boat, and air	Rail, boat, and air
Asparagus	---	1	---	1	---	---	---	---
Beans, Lima, snap and fava	210	390	20	620	308	494	14	816
Beets	14	45	---	59	3	109	---	112
Broccoli	155	100	---	255	200	203	---	403
Brussels sprouts	66	27	---	93	39	59	---	98
Cabbage	799	1,402	---	2,201	453	1,570	10	2,033
Cantaloups and other melons 1/	---	2	92	94	12	14	106	132
Carrots	841	684	---	1,525	689	743	6	1,438
Cauliflower	180	446	---	626	268	586	---	854
Celery	1,247	1,330	---	2,577	1,884	1,143	---	3,027
Corn	119	111	3	233	145	183	---	328
Cucumbers	27	163	226	416	142	510	9	661
Escarole and endive	96	191	---	287	99	236	---	335
Lettuce and romaine	2,552	1,567	---	4,119	2,846	1,959	---	4,805
Onions, dry	840	1,071	30	1,941	777	1,258	9	2,044
Onions, green 2/	---	144	---	144	92	162	---	254
Peas, green	1	17	62	80	55	17	4	76
Peppers	182	312	65	559	359	248	8	615
Spinach	214	161	---	375	190	187	---	377
Other cooking greens	120	617	---	737	107	497	1	605
Squash	28	299	7	334	21	376	6	403
Tomatoes	733	1,199	369	2,301	905	1,819	26	2,750
Turnips and rutabagas	14	227	202	443	10	208	178	396
Watermelons	---	---	3	3	1	2	6	---
Other vegetables (including mixed)	1,467	972	85	2,524	1,283	1,107	138	2,528
Total above	9,905	11,478	1,164	22,547	10,890	13,689	517	25,096
Potatoes	6,341	3,233	128	9,702	6,065	3,748	112	9,925
Sweetpotatoes	60	963	17	1,040	157	1,421	14	1,592
Grand total	16,306	15,674	1,309	33,289	17,112	18,858	643	36,613

1/ Except watermelons.

2/ Includes shallots, chives cipollines, leeks, scallions, and green onions.

Markets include: Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas and Fort Worth, Denver, Detroit, Kansas City (Missouri), Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Oakland (California), Portland (Oregon), Philadelphia, St. Louis, San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington, D. C.

Table 7.--Vegetables, fresh: Representative prices (l.c.l. sales) at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1 when available), indicated periods, 1955 and 1956

Market and commodity	State of origin	Unit	Tuesday nearest mid-month							
			1955				1956			
			Mar.	Apr.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Mar.	Apr.
			15	12	17	14	13	10		
									Dol.	Dol.
New York:										
Beans, snap, green, Plentiful	Florida	Bu.	4.23	3.50	6.17	7.25	3.33	---		
Beets, bunched	Texas	1/2 WGA crt.	3.03	3.06	3.18	3.00	2.75	2.85		
Broccoli	California	14's, small crt.	3.75	3.21	4.50	4.00	3.19	3.78		
Cabbage: Domestic, Round type	Florida	1-3/4 bu. crt.	2.31	3.12	3.21	1.87	1.98	2.25		
Domestic, Round type	Texas	1-3/4 bu. crt.	2.25	---	3.50	1.97	2.01	---		
Carrots	California	6-doz. WGA crt.	6.50	5.75	7.65	8.75	5.16	5.00		
Bunched Topped	Texas	48-1 lb. film bag crt.	3.87	3.78	5.73	4.25	3.30	3.40		
Cauliflower	California	WGA crt. 18's	---	4.87	---	---	4.75	4.83		
Celery Golden Heart	Florida	16-in. crt.	---	4.00	---	---	3.44	5.07		
Pascal	California	16-in. crt.	5.00	5.00	4.42	5.16	4.88	5.54		
Cucumbers	Florida	Bu.	---	9.10	8.42	7.25	6.90	3.75		
Eggplant	do.	Bu.	3.50	2.25	3.50	3.00	---	2.13		
Escarole	do.	1-1/9 bu. crt.	1.56	1.68	3.42	3.09	1.84	1.51		
Lettuce, Iceberg	California	2-doz. crt.	3.77	3.89	2.45	2.72	3.26	---		
Onions Sweet Spanish, large	Idaho	50-lb. sack	2.62	4.50	2.97	2.78	3.01	---		
Yellow, medium	New York	50-lb. sack	1.37	1.63	1.45	1.84	1.62	1.00		
Peppers, green	Florida	Bu.	4.00	5.25	5.03	3.81	8.50	3.90		
Spinach, Savoy	Texas	Bu.	1.71	---	2.09	2.13	1.88	---		
Tomatoes	Florida	6x6 60-lb. crt.	6.71	5.56	10.38	8.28	---	6.60		
Chicago:										
Beans, snap, green, Valentine	Florida	Bu.	4.75	5.25	7.25	8.00	3.75	4.50		
Beets, bunched	Texas	1/2 WGA crt.	2.85	2.75	2.50	2.90	2.50	2.65		
Broccoli	California	14's, small crt.	3.35	3.10	4.00	3.25	2.70	3.35		
Cabbage, Domestic, Round type	Florida	1-3/4 bu. crt.	2.25	3.35	2.90	1.50	2.15	2.50		
Carrots: Bunched	California	WGA crt.	5.00	4.90	---	7.00	5.00	4.25		
Topped, washed	Illinois	50-lb. crt.	1.50	1.75	1.75	2.50	1.75	---		
Celery, Golden Heart	Florida	16-in. crt.	5.00	4.50	4.75	5.00	4.50	5.50		
Pascal	California	16-in. crt.	5.15	5.25	3.85	3.90	4.15	5.35		
Cucumbers	Florida	Bu.	10.00	8.50	8.25	7.25	7.75	4.00		
Eggplant	do.	Bu.	4.12	2.00	3.25	3.00	7.25	2.15		
Lettuce, Iceberg, dry pack	California	WGA crt.	3.00	3.70	1.75	2.50	2.85	---		
Onions Sweet Spanish	Idaho	50-lb. sack	2.45	3.50	2.60	2.50	2.50	---		
Yellow, Globe	Midwest	50-lb. sack	1.25	1.25	1.30	1.25	.62	.40		
Peppers, green	Florida	Bu.	4.25	4.75	5.50	5.00	8.50	4.40		
Spinach, flat type	Texas	Bu.	1.75	---	1.70	1.75	1.70	---		

Table 8.- Vegetables, fresh: Average price received by farmers, United States, indicated periods, 1955 and 1956

Commodity	Unit	1955		1956	
		Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Jan. 15	Feb. 15
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Beans, snap	Bushel	3.00	2.35	3.75	3.50
Broccoli	Crate	4.40	4.25	3.75	3.90
Cabbage	Ton	44.80	31.70	42.00	25.80
Carrots	Bushel	1.45	1.35	1.70	1.45
Cauliflower	Crate	1.70	1.65	1.40	1.85
Celery	Crate	2.90	3.00	1.80	1.75
Corn, sweet	5 dozen				
	ears	2.80	2.85	2.90	3.00
Cucumbers	Bushel	3.50	7.00	3.75	4.50
Lettuce	Crate	3.80	4.00	1.95	2.70
Onions	Sack	.95	.95	1.20	.95
Peppers, green	Bushel	2.90	2.80	2.45	3.50
Spinach	Bushel	1.80	1.30	1.55	1.55
Tomatoes	Bushel	4.85	6.60	5.30	5.40

Table 9.- Vegetables for commercial processing: Prospective plantings, average 1945-54, annual 1955 and 1956

Crop	Planted acreage			1956 as a percentage of	
	Average	1955	Intended	Average	1955
	1945-54		1956	1945-54	
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Percent	Percent
Asparagus	84,410	115,070	---	---	---
Beans, green, lima	99,120	105,050	---	---	---
Beans, snap	130,540	146,010	152,490	117	104
Beets for canning	17,090	18,590	20,720	121	111
Cabbage for kraut:					
Contract	9,940	7,680	9,820	99	128
Open market	8,420	5,840	---	---	---
Total for cabbage	---	13,520	---	---	---
Corn, sweet	496,100	406,900	469,980	95	116
Cucumbers for pickles	144,140	134,220	129,070	90	96
Pimientos	20,480	26,700	---	---	---
Peas, green	459,340	469,920	499,840	109	106
Spinach:					
Winter and early spring	14,680	12,800	13,200	90	103
Late spring and fall	26,250	21,790	---	---	---
Total for spinach	---	34,590	---	---	---
Tomatoes	412,840	322,720	355,550	86	110
Total, 11 crops	1,922,450	1,793,290	---	---	---

Table 10.--Vegetables, frozen: Cold-storage holdings,
March 31, 1956

Commodity	March	1955	1956		March 31 1/
	average 1951-55	March 31	January 31	February 29	
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	
Asparagus	6,952	7,743	11,843	9,823	7,461
Beans, lima	59,249	74,236	85,313	75,251	64,819
Beans, snap	37,597	48,867	68,633	58,290	46,461
Broccoli	35,306	29,363	29,617	30,011	34,588
Brussels sprouts	16,893	23,430	20,341	17,513	15,062
Cauliflower	13,219	10,276	17,952	15,832	16,105
Corn, sweet	36,639	64,142	57,812	49,029	39,053
Peas, green	76,844	63,000	96,882	77,551	59,135
Potatoes, french fries	2/	2/	20,267	26,700	31,677
Spinach	26,528	17,982	27,571	23,386	26,566
Other vegetables	97,237	117,956	99,018	89,804	86,943
Peas and Carrots	2/	2/	7,052	6,778	6,403
Mixed vegetables	2/	2/	15,877	15,578	14,012
Total	406,464	456,995	558,178	495,546	448,285

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Included in other vegetables.

Table 11.- Potatoes: Prospective plantings for 1956 season

Group of States	Acreage				1956 as percentage of 1955
	Average	1955	Indicated	1956 1/	
	1946-54		1956 1/		
Early	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	
13 States	acres	acres	acres	acres	Percent
Intermediate	344.4	255.9	232.6		90.9
7 States	156.8	99.8	95.7		95.9
Late					
9 Eastern	447.6	353.3	335.6		95.0
9 Central	491.8	334.7	317.5		94.9
11 Western	417.9	408.2	412.2		101.0
Total late States	1,357.3	1,096.2	1,065.3		97.2
36 late and intermediate	1,514.1	1,196.0	1,161.0		97.1
Total	1,858.5	1,451.9	1,393.6		96.0

1/ Indications as of March 1, 1956. 2/ Assuming 1951-55 average yield by States, production from this prospective acreage would amount to 361.1 million bushels in 1956, compared with 381.6 million bushels produced in 1955.

Table 12.--Canned vegetables: Commercial packs 1954 and 1955 and canners' and wholesale distributors' stocks 1955 and 1956, by commodities, United States

Commodity	Pack		Stocks					
			Canner 1/			Wholesale distributors 1/		
	1954	1955	Date	1955	1956	Date	1955	1956
	1,000	1,000		1,000	1,000		1,000	1,000
	cases	cases		cases	cases		cases	cases
	<u>24/2's</u>	<u>24/2's</u>		<u>24/2's</u>	<u>24/2's</u>		<u>24/2's</u>	<u>24/2's</u>
Major commodities								
Beans, snap	27,069	23,371	Mar. 1	10,671	10,179	Jan. 1	3,214	3,027
Corn, sweet	30,619	24,075	Mar. 1	16,477	11,690	Jan. 1	3,917	3,757
Peas, green	23,951	27,376	Mar. 1	7,669	8,091	Jan. 1	3,345	3,175
Tomatoes	21,827	24,727	Jan. 1	10,476	10,879	Jan. 1	3,759	4,233
Tomato juice 2/	27,062	26,911	Jan. 1	21,489	16,284	Jan. 1	3,143	2,928
Total	130,528	126,460		66,782	57,123		17,378	17,120
Minor commodities								
Asparagus	4,978	6,248	Mar. 1	605	1,656	Jan. 1	714	689
Beans, lima	3,520	2,806	Feb. 1	2,276	2,161	Jan. 1	619	556
Beets	7,061	7,493	Mar. 1	3,765	3,621	Jan. 1	1,047	1,000
Carrots	2,096	1,902	Mar. 1	1,585	1,068	Jan. 1	436	426
Pickles	3/20,713	3/21,223	---	---	---	---	---	---
Pimientos	3/644	3/1,000	---	---	---	---	---	---
Pumpkin and squash	2,134	4,231	Dec. 1	957	N. A.	Jan. 1	559	723
Sauerkraut	3/11,237	3/8,678	Mar. 1	4/5,486	4/3,468	Jan. 1	849	972
Potatoes	1,656	N. A.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Sweetpotatoes	4,061	N. A.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Spinach	3,979	5/3,379	Mar. 1	5/308	5/351	Jan. 1	657	942
Other greens	2,090	N. A.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Tomato products:								
Catsup and chili sauce	14,360	18,382	Jan. 1	9,682	10,615	Jan. 1	1,483	1,670
Paste	6/5,652	6/8,760	Jan. 1	2,714	3,078		N. A.	N. A.
Pulp and puree	3,159	4,261	Jan. 1	5/887	5/1,203	Jan. 1	948	869
Sauce	8,204	10,061	Jan. 1	4,622	5,622	Jan. 1	824	682
Vegetables, mixed	3,040	3,049	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total, comparable minor items	90,777	101,473		31,930	32,843		8,136	8,529
Grand total								
Comparable items	221,305	227,933		98,712	89,966		25,514	25,649

1/ Converted from actual cases to standard cases of 24 No. 2 cans by S&HR Branch of AMS.

2/ Includes combination vegetable juices containing at least 70 percent tomato juice.

3/ Crop for processing converted to a canned basis by applying an overall conversion factor (pickles 68, sauerkraut 54, and pimientos 29 cases equivalent to 1 ton fresh).

4/ Reported in barrels; converted to 24/2's by using 14 cases to the barrel.

5/ California only.

6/ Estimated, basis California pack.

N. A. - Not Available.

Table 13.- Potatoes, commercial early: Acreage, yield per acre, and production average 1945-54, annual 1955 and indicated 1956 1

Seasonal group	Acreage		Yield per acre		Production	
	Average	1955	Indicated	Average	Indicated	Average
	1945-54	2/	1956	1945-54	1955	1945-54
Winter	11,560	13,300	16,300	219	291	270
Early spring	24,630	25,050	26,200	182	250	219
Late spring	151,080	126,500	116,750	276	329	41,119
Summer	93,160	71,100	64,750	219	261	20,320
Year	280,400	235,950	224,000	247	298	70,301

1/ This acreage and production is later included in reports of total potatoes. 2/ Simple averages of annual data for the season.

Table 14.- Sweetpotatoes: Plantings, average 1945-54 annual 1955 and indicated 1956

Group of States	Acreage		Acreage		Acreage	
	Average	1945-54	1955	Indicated	1956 1/	1956 as percent- age of 1955
	1,000	acres	1,000	acres	1,000	acres
Central Atlantic 2/	43.2	43.9	43.2	43.9	39.6	90
Lower Atlantic 3/	147.7	98.0	147.7	98.0	89.0	91
South Atlantic 4/	256.4	204.2	256.4	204.2	176.5	86
North Central 5/	8.7	4.7	8.7	4.7	4.7	100
California	11.0	13.0	11.0	13.0	13.0	100
United States	466.2	363.8	6/322.8	6/322.8	88.7	

1/ Indications as of March 1, 1956. 2/ New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia. 3/ North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. 4/ Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas. 5/ Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and Kansas. 6/ Assuming 1950-54 average yield by States, production from this prospective acreage would amount to 30.0 million bushels in 1956, compared with 38.4 million bushels in 1955.

Table 15.--Potatoes: Price f.o.b. shipping points and wholesale price at New York and Chicago, indicated periods 1955 and 1956

Item	Unit	Week ended							
		1955				1956			
		Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	
		12	12	7	1 ⁴	11	10	7	
F.o.b. shipping points									
New crop:									
Dade County, Fla.,									
U. S. No. 1, Size A,									
Round Red 1/	50 lb. sack	2.05	1.80	3.18	---	1.85	2.02	2.65	
Old crop:									
San Luis Valley, Colo.,									
Red McClure 1/	100 lb. sack	2/1.92	2/1.92	4.00	2.46	3.09	3.16	4.24	
Idaho Falls, Idaho									
Russet Burbank 1/ 3/ 4/ 5/	100 lb. sack	3.36	3.49	5.16	2.86	3.14	2.85	3.45	
Connecticut River Valley,									
Mass., U. S. No. 1 6/	100 lb. sack	2.34	2.38	---	1.60	1.60	1.63	---	
Aroostook County, Me.,									
U. S. No. 1, Size A,									
Katahdin	100 lb. sack	2.10	1.98	2.98	1.84	1.90	2.10	2.46	
Hartford-Rockville Area,									
Conn., Katahdin 3/	100 lb. sack	2.46	2.42	3.47	1.82	1.85	2.12	7/2.95	
Rochester, West and									
Central N. Y. 5/ 6/	100 lb. sack	2.30	2.26	3.84	8/2.33	8/2.63	8/2.31	8/3.34	
Lancaster-Allentown									
Section, Pa.,									
Katahdin, U. S. No. 1 5/	100 lb. sack	2.40	2.40	---	1.82	1.90	2.00	---	
West Michigan, Mich.									
Katahdin, 5/ 7/	100 lb. sack	2.14	2.16	---	1.92	2.20	2.46	---	
		Tuesday nearest mid-month							
		1955				1956			
		Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	
		15	15	12	17	14	13	10	
Terminal markets:									
New York:									
Long Island, Katahdin		2.90	---	---	1.18	1.20	1.43	1.70	
Maine, Katahdin 9/	100 lb. sack	2.98	2.95	2.90	1.44	1.42	1.63	1.75	
Idaho, Russet Burbank 1/	100 lb. sack	5.37	5.62	3.75	2.54	2.62	2.63	2.88	
Chicago:									
Red River Valley,									
Pontiac, Mich. 1/	100 lb. sack	2.65	2.45	5.75	3.25	3.80	4.60	4.90	
Idaho, Russet Burbank 1/	100 lb. sack	4.60	4.75	6.50	4.30	4.35	4.75	5.00	

1/ Washed.

2/ 2-3 inch minimum.

3/ 2-inch minimum.

4/ 20-30 percent, 10 ounce and larger.

5/ Delivered sales shipping point.

6/ Various varieties.

7/ 50 pound price doubled.

8/ Computed from price of 15 pound sack.

9/ 2¹/₂ minimum.

F.o.b. prices are the simple averages of the mid-point of the range of daily prices and are compiled from Market News Reports of AMS. Market prices are submitted Tuesday of each week by Market News representatives.

Table 16.--Sweetpotatoes: F.o.b. prices at Southern Louisiana points and representative market prices (l.c.l. sales) at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1, when available), indicated periods 1955 and 1956

Location and variety	Unit	Week ended							
		1955				1956			
		Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	
		12	12	9	14	11	10	7	
F.o.b. shipping points									
S. W. Louisiana points	50 pound								
Porto Rican	crate	4.41	4.45	4.39	2.68	2.46	2.54	2.38	
		Tuesday nearest midmonth							
		1955				1956			
		Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	
		15	15	12	17	14	13	10	
Terminal markets									
New York									
New Jersey, Jersey type	Bushel								
North Carolina, Porto Rican	basket	3.68	---	---	2.75	2.80	2.50	2.30	
Chicago									
Louisiana, Porto Rican	50 pound								
	crate	5.10	5.10	5.20	3.20	3.25	3.10	3.10	

F.o.b. prices are simple averages of the mid-point of the range of daily prices. Market prices are for Tuesday of each week and are submitted by Market News representatives to Fruit and Vegetable Section of AMS.

Table 17.--Average price received by farmers for potatoes, sweetpotatoes, dry edible beans, and dry field peas, United States, indicated periods, 1955 and 1956

Commodity	Unit	1955			1956		
		Feb.	Mar.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	
		15	15	15	15	15	
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	
Field crops							
Potatoes	Bu.	1.19	1.20	.994	1.14	1.34	
Sweetpotatoes	Bu.	3.03	3.12	1.99	1.98	2.09	
Beans, dry, edible	Cwt.	8.27	8.16	6.79	6.69	6.68	
Peas, dry, field	Cwt.	6.97	6.73	6.29	7.27	7.47	

Table 18.- Peas, dry, field: Prospective plantings for 1956 season 1/

State	Acreage			1956 as percentage of 1955
	Average 1945-54	1955	Indicated 1956 2/	
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	
Minnesota	5	4	4	100
North Dakota	8	2	3	150
Montana	11	6	7	117
Idaho	104	100	135	135
Wyoming	4	5	5	100
Colorado	21	18	19	105
Washington	184	179	186	104
Oregon	18	5	9	180
California	14	6	9	150
Total				
United States	369	325	377	116.0

1/ In principal commercial producing States.

2/ Indication as of March 1, 1956.

3/ Assuming planted yield per acre, by States, equals the 1950-54 average, production from the prospective acreage would be about 4,500 thousand 100-pound bags (uncleaned basis), compared with 2,793 thousand bags produced in 1955.

Table 19.- Beans, dry, edible: Prospective plantings for 1956 season 1/

Group of States	Acreage			1956 as percentage of 1955
	Average 1945-54	1955	Indicated 1956	
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	
Maine, New York, Michigan	617	684	651	95
Nebraska, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Washington	321	330	318	96
Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah	416	323	277	86
California	323	323	289	89
Total United States	1,676	1,660	1,535	92.5

1/ Includes beans grown for seed.

2/ Indications as of March 1, 1956.

3/ Assuming 1950-54 average yields per planted acre, by States, production from this prospective acreage would amount to 17.9 million 100-pound bags (uncleaned basis) in 1956, compared with 18.8 million bags produced in 1955.

Table 20.--Vegetables, commercial for fresh market: Index numbers (unadjusted) of prices received by farmers, United States, as of the 15th of the month, indicated periods

(1910-14=100)													
Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Average
	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
1924	164	143	176	195	188	133	134	125	114	115	135	191	151
1925	185	177	177	155	149	162	166	121	95	121	167	166	153
1926	201	220	197	204	197	162	116	90	87	84	105	129	149
1927	179	163	147	146	188	183	136	112	80	74	85	139	136
1928	149	167	194	182	149	112	110	110	114	127	157	188	147
1929	180	157	156	161	135	139	135	119	94	97	129	147	137
1930	192	174	182	170	140	113	99	90	80	87	89	118	128
1931	119	116	114	115	94	95	92	104	90	91	107	146	107
1932	126	126	167	175	121	93	66	49	54	54	73	91	100
1933	78	70	83	90	94	108	89	88	90	84	84	125	90
1934	111	95	97	109	106	88	87	88	70	77	93	110	94
1935	129	152	157	158	132	96	80	72	79	102	111	126	116
1936	108	110	125	118	123	102	108	100	97	91	106	106	108
1937	111	139	162	137	156	112	84	80	85	87	102	116	114
1938	116	104	100	118	106	91	77	74	72	82	95	122	96
1939	108	101	120	121	106	91	84	74	82	87	103	104	98

Continued -

Table 20.--Vegetables, commercial for fresh market: Index numbers (unadjusted) of prices received by farmers, United States, as of the 15th of the month, indicated periods - Continued

Year	Jan. 15	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Apr. 15	May 15	June 15	July 15	Aug. 15	Sept. 15	Oct. 15	Nov. 15	Dec. 15	Aver- age	(1910-14=100)					
1940	111	173	210	188	149	117	86	81	80	77	91	104	122						
1941	143	164	180	188	155	133	109	107	98	110	124	146	138						
1942	187	190	182	169	177	155	152	152	144	176	209	248	178						
1943	273	290	349	376	325	286	228	210	205	213	240	251	270						
1944	302	269	255	242	270	252	204	188	188	188	213	257	236						
1945	267	228	235	270	236	275	253	230	184	216	240	240	240						
1946	266	271	279	270	207	205	195	174	167	174	215	185	217						
1947	247	277	320	307	306	228	210	215	205	233	298	298	262						
1948	315	332	309	372	291	238	222	182	172	186	200	220	253						
1949	301	305	302	246	234	180	190	190	202	193	225	219	232						
1950	257	213	195	276	231	211	200	170	156	165	214	249	211						
1951	338	346	288	333	276	215	203	197	190	211	290	343	269						
1952	301	249	294	341	311	294	289	240	203	224	266	281	274						
1953	263	262	249	254	251	289	246	201	192	198	224	235	239						
1954	1/	247	227	230	266	247	197	228	199	173	190	226	221	221					
1955	1/	257	258	262	270	308	230	223	211	230	223	231	231						
1956	2/	244	290																

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